



National Weather Service

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



April 1997

Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons Killed	Number of Persons Injured	Estimated Damage Property	Estimated Damage Crops	Character of Storm
<u>ILLINOIS, Northwest</u>									
Henderson County Oquawka	05	1410CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (G65)
		Numerous trees downed.							
Mcdonough County Macomb	05	1425CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (G50)
		Trees down.							
Mercer County Joy	05	1435CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (G52)
		Small shed blown over.							
Warren County Alexis	05	1445CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (G50)
		Building damaged, trees downed.							
Mercer County North Henderson	05	1450CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (G52)
		Power pole downed.							
Mercer County 5 W Aledo to Aledo	05	1455CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (G50)
		Numerous large tree limbs downed.							
Mercer County New Windsor	05	1455CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (G50)
		Trees and power lines downed.							
Warren County 8 NW Monmouth	05	1458CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (G52)
		A shed and several trees blown down. A boat was thrown 75 feet.							
Warren County 5 NW Monmouth	05	1458CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (G52)
		Power pole blown down.							
Henry County Geneseo	05	1528CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (G52)
		Power lines downed.							
Whiteside County Prophetstown	05	1540CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (G50)
		Trees downed.							
Whiteside County Prophetstown	05	1540CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (G70)
		Roof partially blown off building.							
Whiteside County Rock Falls	05	1545CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (G52)
		Trees downed.							
Bureau County Princeton	05	1555CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (G52)
		Trees downed.							
Putnam County Countywide	05	1605CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (G50)
		Trees downed.							
Carroll County Mt Carroll	05	1616CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (G50)
		Trees downed.							



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ILLINOIS, Northwest

Jo Daviess County
Countywide **05** **1635CST** **0** **0** **Thunderstorm Wind (G52)**
Widespread tree damage reported across the county.

Stephenson County
Freeport **05** **1636CST** **0** **0** **Thunderstorm Wind (G52)**
Trees and power lines downed.

Stephenson County
Lena **05** **1636CST** **0** **0** **Thunderstorm Wind (G50)**

Showers and a few thunderstorms swept through the area mixing stronger winds aloft to the surface. No hail and little lightning was associated with the precipitation however, areas of intense wind damage were associated with the passage of the precipitation. Widespread damage to trees and power lines temporarily closed roads and interrupted electrical service to as many as a quarter million customers across the area.

ILZ001>002-007-009-015>018-024>026-034>035 **Jo Daviess - Stephenson - Carroll - Whiteside - Rock Island - Henry - Bureau - Putnam - Mercer - Henderson - Warren - Hancock - McDonough**

06 **0800CST** **0** **0** **1.6M** **High Wind (G54)**
1800CST

Strong gradient winds howled across the area during the morning and early afternoon hours. Widespread and significant damage was done to trees and power lines. Isolated roof and other structural damage also occurred along with several reports of semi-trucks being blow off the roads.

One Quad City roofer was quoted as saying: "I've been a roofer for 27 years and I've never experienced anything like this." Reports indicated damage was mostly done to new roofs whose shingles had not completely sealed.

The high winds also contributed to the spread of two grassland fires near Savana in Carroll county Illinois. The first fire spread to a horse barn destroying it, with some animals trapped inside. The second fire destroyed a milking parlor. The total damage was estimated at \$120,000.

Gusts at specific airport locations: Moline, Illinois 52 knots, Sterling, Illinois 54 knots.

ILZ001-007-009-015-024>025-034 **Jo Daviess - Carroll - Whiteside - Rock Island - Mercer - Henderson - Hancock**

08 **0600CST** **0** **0** **Flood**
30 **2000CST**

Spring snowmelt from very heavy snow cover across the upper basin brought significant flooding to portions of the Mississippi River. Several locations reached the third through fifth highest crests of record. Crests might have been higher; however, precipitation for March and April over Iowa and Illinois was well below normal, therefore the area tributary rivers contributed very little to the crest.

Economic impacts were significant; however, because the initial forecasts from the River Forecast Center were quite good, most of the cost of the flood was due to preventative measures rather than flood repairs or replacement. Commerce was impacted with barge navigation on the Mississippi River and train travel along the river suspended for up to two weeks.

ILZ015>018-024>026-034>035 **Rock Island - Henry - Bureau - Putnam - Mercer - Henderson - Warren - Hancock - McDonough**

10 **0600CST** **0** **0** **Heavy Snow**
12 **2000CST**



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Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons		Estimated Damage	Character of Storm	
					Killed	Injured	Property	Crops	

ILLINOIS, Northwest

A foot to a foot and a half of heavy wet snow fell in several waves of heavy snow. Snow was heavy enough to cause the collapse of many roofs. Most of the roofs were those of sheds, barns, and carports but some well built flat roofed businesses were also damaged along with many area trees. Winds remained under 15 mph throughout the event and this combined with the heavy nature of the snow kept drifting to a minimum.

Perhaps the greatest impact of the storm was that most cities had to re-tool their trucks for snow removal after many of them had just modified them for summer duty. The late season snow also slowed sand bagging efforts on the Mississippi River.

Hancock County

3 SE Warsaw to 2 S Warsaw	30	1250CST 1252CST	1	20	0	0	400K	Tornado (F0)
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Hancock County

2 S Warsaw to 1 S Warsaw	30	1252CST 1254CST	1	20	0	0	400K	Tornado (F0)
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Hancock County

1 S Warsaw to .5 S Warsaw	30	1254CST	0.5	20	0	0	400K	Tornado (F1)
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A tornado tracked nearly three miles across mostly open farm land but still managed to strike five farms destroying several outbuildings and over 20 power poles.

As the storm neared Warsaw, Illinois, nearly 50 homes sustained damage to windows from downed trees and flying debris. One home was damaged when a large 130 year old Oak tree toppled over. The tree destroyed the porch, carport, and the two family vehicles. Most disturbing, was that the tree crashed into the home and blocked the stairs to the basement just as the family attempted to take cover from the tornado. The family was unharmed.

Hancock County

4 W St Mary to 1 NE Fountain Green	30	1303CST 1319CST	12	10	0	0		Tornado (F0)
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McDonough County

2 SW Blandinsville to Blandinsville	30	1319CST 1325CST	2	20	0	0	20K	Tornado (F1)
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Warren County

17 SW Roseville to Roseville	30	1325CST 1445CST	17	10	0	0		Tornado (F0)
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A tornado made a series of "touches" over nearly 15 miles and two counties before dissipating. Little damage was reported until the storm neared Blandinsville, where it destroyed 3 farm buildings and tore the roofs off a home and a warehouse. The tornado also snapped 13 power poles near Blandinsville.

McDonough County

1 N Industry to 2 N Industry	30	1330CST 1335CST	1	10	0	0	20K	Tornado (F0)
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A tornado touched down near a farm and destroyed one wood frame barn and damaged one tin shed and one grain bin. Numerous power lines and trees were also reported downed.

Carroll County

Savanna	30	1335CST			0	0		Hail (0.75)
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Henry County

2 SW Galva to 1 E Galva	30	1430CST	2	10	0	0		Tornado (F0)
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No damage was reported from several weak tornado touchdowns.

Bureau County

13 S Princeton	30	1440CST			0	0		Thunderstorm Wind (G61)
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Thunderstorm winds toppled a 200 foot communication tower.

Bureau County

13 S Princeton	30	1440CST	1	20	0	0	20K	Tornado (F1)
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A 200 foot communication tower was found toppled.



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ILLINOIS, Northwest

Bureau County									
.7 N Milo	30	1450CST			0	0	20K		Thunderstorm Wind (G60)
									Thunderstorm winds damaged two out buildings and destroyed a grain bin.
ILZ034		Hancock							
	30	1605CST			0	0			High Wind (G44)
ILZ017		Bureau							
	30	1900CST			0	0	6K		High Wind (G52)
									Gradient winds blew down walls at a construction site.

IOWA, East Central and Southeast

Lee County									
Donnellson	05	1350CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (G52)
									Trees down.
Lee County									
Ft Madison	05	1353CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (G52)
									Light pole blown down at Ford Dealership.
Keokuk County									
Countywide	05	1400CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (G52)
									Numerous trees and power lines downed.
Des Moines County									
Burlington	05	1430CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (G50)
									Large trees downed.
Iowa County									
Homestead	05	1440CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (G52)
									Barn collapsed.
Washington County									
Washington	05	1440CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (G52)
									Power poles snapped.
Louisa County									
1 W Grandview	05	1445CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (G52)
									Barn blown over.
Benton County									
Countywide	05	1455CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (G50)
									Power lines blown down in several localities.
Johnson County									
Iowa City	05	1500CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (G50)
									Numerous large limbs down from old trees in historic district.
Cedar County									
Tipton	05	1513CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (G50)
									Large limbs downed.
Cedar County									
Tipton	05	1516CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (G50)
									Trees down.
Scott County									
Davenport	05	1517CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (G61)
									Measured wind gust recorded at Davenport National Weather Service Office.



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<u>IOWA, East Central and Southeast</u>									
Jones County 1 S Anamosa	05	1520CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (G52)
									Barn blown over.
Scott County Davenport	05	1520CST			0	0	2K		Thunderstorm Wind (G61)
									Gazebo and small shed blown away.
Buchanan County 8 E Independence	05	1540CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (G70)
									Several buildings damaged and power lines downed.
Delaware County Manchester	05	1555CST			0	0	10K		Thunderstorm Wind (G70)
									House damaged and a mobile home blown over, trees toppled.
Jackson County Sabula	05	1600CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (G52)
									Trees downed.
Dubuque County Centralia	05	1600CST			0	0	6K		Thunderstorm Wind (G52)
									Patio roof and a few outbuildings damaged, area power lines downed.
Jackson County Maquoketa	05	1600CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (G50)
									Large tree limbs downed.
Dubuque County Dubuque	05	1610CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (G50)
									Showers and a few thunderstorms swept through the area mixing stronger winds aloft to the surface. No hail and little lightning was associated with the precipitation; however, areas of intense wind damage were associated with the passage of the precipitation. Widespread damage to trees and power lines temporarily closed roads and interrupted electrical service to as many as a quarter million customers across the area.
IAZ040>042-051>054-063>068-076>078-087>089-098>099	Buchanan - Delaware - Dubuque - Benton - Linn - Jones - Jackson - Iowa - Johnson - Cedar - Clinton - Muscatine - Scott - Keokuk - Washington - Louisa - Jefferson - Henry - Des Moines - Van Buren - Lee								
	06	0800CST 1600CST			0	0	2.5M		High Wind (G59)
									Strong gradient winds howled across the area during the morning and early afternoon hours. Widespread and significant damage was done to trees and power lines. Isolated roof and other structural damage also occurred along with several reports of semi-trucks being blow off roads.
									One Quad City roofer was quoted as saying: "I've been a roofer for 27 years and I've never experienced anything like this." Reports indicated damage was done mostly to new roofs whose shingles had not completely sealed.
									Gusts at specific airport locations: Burlington, Iowa 47 knots, Cedar Rapids, Iowa 50 knots, Clinton, Iowa 57 knots, Dubuque, Iowa 48 knots, Davenport, Iowa 59 knots, Iowa City, Iowa 46 knots.
IAZ042-054-066>068-078-089-099	Dubuque - Jackson - Clinton - Muscatine - Scott - Louisa - Des Moines - Lee								
	08 30	0600CST 2000CST			0	0			Flood
									Spring snowmelt from very heavy snow cover across the upper basin brought significant flooding to portions of the Mississippi River. Several locations reached the third through fifth highest crests of record. Crests might have been higher; however,



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IOWA, East Central and Southeast

precipitation for March and April over Iowa and Illinois was well below normal, therefore the area tributary rivers contributed very little to the crest.

Economic impacts were significant; however, because the initial forecasts from the River Forecast Center were quite good, most of the expenditures were spent on preventative measures rather than on flood repairs and replacement. The primary costs were from sandbagging, and interrupted commerce, rather than in water damage. Barge navigation on the Mississippi River and train traffic along the river was suspended for up to two weeks.

Cities with flood wall or levee protection fared quite well with little impact. Among those without protection; Davenport, Iowa, reported the cost in city employee overtime and sandbagging to be at \$420,000. This cost however, did not cover any of the loss of business to the downtown area where one business reported losses of \$200,000 a day.

IAZ063>065-067>068-076>078-087>089-098>099 - Lee **Iowa - Johnson - Cedar - Muscatine - Scott - Keokuk - Washington - Louisa - Jefferson - Henry - Des Moines - Van Buren**

10	0600CST	0	0	Heavy Snow
12	2000CST			

A foot to a foot and a half of heavy wet snow fell in several waves of heavy snow. Snow was heavy enough to cause the collapse of many roofs. Most of the roofs were those of sheds, barns, and carports but some well built flat roofed businesses were also damaged along with many area trees. Winds remained under 15 mph throughout the event and this combined with the heavy nature of the snow kept drifting to a minimum.

Perhaps the greatest impact of the storm was that most cities had to re-tool their trucks for snow removal after many of them had just modified them for summer duty. The late season snow also slowed sand bagging efforts on the Mississippi River.

Cedar County							
Tipton	30	1300CST			0	0	Hail (1.00)
Cedar County							
Clarence	30	1312CST			0	0	Hail (1.00)
Jackson County							
Countywide	30	1340CST			0	0	Thunderstorm Wind (G50)
Muscatine County							
Muscatine to	30	1400CST	10	20	0	0	Tornado (F0)
10 NE Muscatine		1420CST					
Cedar County							
3 W Durant to	30	1420CST	3	20	0	0	10K Tornado (F0)
Durant		1425CST					

Little or no damage was reported throughout much of the lifetime of this tornado. The only report of damage came near the end of the tornado as it crossed interstate 80 near Durant, Iowa. The tornado struck one of three semi trucks which were carrying mobile homes. One semi had its mobile home torn off the truck and smashed to the ground while the semi and two other semi trucks and their mobile homes went undamaged.

Clinton County							
2 E Goose Lake to	30	1540CST	2	20	0	0	40K Tornado (F0)
Bryant							
Tornado caused damage to windows in home and destroyed a horse barn, horse trailer.							
Jackson County							
Miles	30	1542CST	0	10	0	0	Tornado (F0)
Tornado reported but no damage.							
Clinton County							
4 SE Lost Nation to	30	1545CST	0	10	0	0	Tornado (F0)
4 SW Lost Nation							

Brief touchdown with no damage.



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IOWA, East Central and Southeast

Clinton County

Clinton	30	1545CST	0	10	0	0			Tornado (F0)
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No reports of damage.

WISCONSIN, Extreme Southwest

NONE REPORTED.